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Sandra Stocklinski

Sandra Stocklinski

Name of Person signing Certificate

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

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HILL, Jr., et al.

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Art Unit: Unassigned

Application Number: 09/711,126

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Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: November 13, 2000

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For: PAPER MAKING PROCESSES USING ENZYME AND POLYMER COMBINATIONS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 13, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of these documents is attached. The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is also directed to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/031,830, filed February 27, 1998, which corresponds to document WO 99/43780 listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and a copy of which is submitted herewith. If the Examiner requests a copy of the 09/031,830 application, the Examiner is requested to please inform the undersigned.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-identified application and prior to issuance of a first official action on the merits.

Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/711,126

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. *See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b)* concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

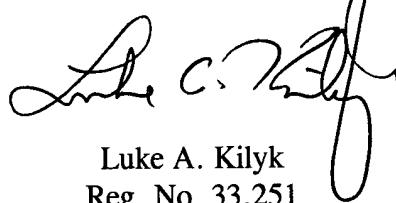
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to

Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/711,126
charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925 and please
consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



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